

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Atty Docket No. 47508-423; Client Docket No. 259.0 US)

Serial No.: 09/283,431 )  
Filed: 1 April 1999 )  
Inventors: Agrawal *et al.* )  
Title: MIXED BACKBONE OLIGO- )  
NUCLEOTIDES CONTAINING )  
POPS BLOCKS TO OBTAIN )  
REDUCED PHOSPHOROTHIO- )  
ATE CONTENT )

Group Art Unit: 1635  
Before the Examiner:



#7  
S.Q.J  
4/19/00

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PETITION FOR A THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME**

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents:

Applicants hereby petition for a three month extension of time to respond to the Office Action mailed 13 October 1999. Granting of this petition makes the Applicants' reply due on 13 April 2000. Please charge our deposit account no. 08-0219 for the petition fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3).

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231.

On 4/12/00  
(Date of Deposit)

Raymond Walsh  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
Raymond J. Walsh, Jr.  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
4/12/00  
(Date of Signature)

Respectfully submitted,  
HALE AND DORR LLP

By:

W.A.K.  
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Wayne A. Keown, Ph.D.  
Reg. No. 33,923

Dated: 12 April 2000

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